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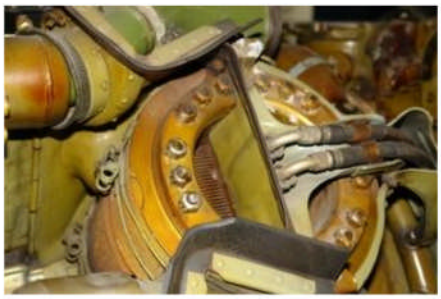
Causes of a Clunking Noise on a Chevy S10

By Khalidah Tunkara, eHow Contributor



The Chevy S10 is a compact pick-up truck released by General Motors. It was first introduced to the auto market in 1982. Its high performance version was introduced in 1991, followed by its electric version, which was leased in 1997 and 1998 as a fleet vehicle. The Chevy S10 was very popular when it was first introduced; unfortunately, it's becoming less popular these days. First, it's already an old model, and second, many Chevy S10 owners complain of problems with their pick-up truck. One of the most common problems encountered by Chevy S10 owners are the clunking noises that their pick-up trucks emit.

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Clunking noises on a Chevy S10 are usually caused by simple problems such as worn tie rods, ball joints or worn bushings. These problems are often resolved by a simple steering inspection and suspension. However, it is important to observe or notice when you hear the clunking noise, as it may be caused by something else that is more expensive to repair.

Suspension System Issues

The suspension system is a complex network of different components designed to give passengers an even, smooth and stable ride. Because it is lower to the ground, it is one of the parts of the truck that will easily wear out and break before all other parts. The steering system will usually make a clunking sound will traveling over bumps in the road. If the suspension system has worn struts, shocks, strut bearings or ball joints, these can all be fixed by simply replacing the damaged part.

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Steering System Problems

Problems with the steering system of a Chevy S10 will also produce clunking noises which can indicate problems with un-lubricated ball joints or bearings, worn components, loose components or even low power steering fluid. Rattling sounds may also be heard if there are loose linkage components. Clunking noises during turns may also be heard if there is lack of lubrication in the bearings or joints of the steering linkage. This can be solved by lubricating the affected parts. However, if the clunking noise continues even after lubricating them, then they may need to be replaced. Clunking noises that happen when turning a corner are usually caused by a belt slipping. This clunking noise can be eliminated by simply replacing or adjusting the belt.

Engine Issues

Chevy engines are usually built for endurance, however, a Chevy S10 may require a new engine if it is constantly being brought to you local repair shop. Hearing noises such as a knocking or clunking sound coming from the engine could mean the engine needs an immediate oil change, engine tune up or a replacement of the spark plugs.

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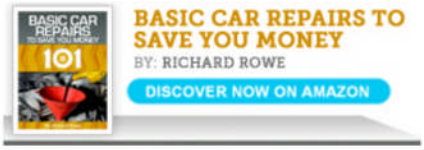

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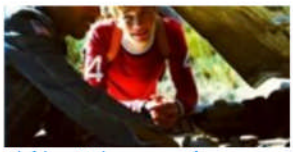
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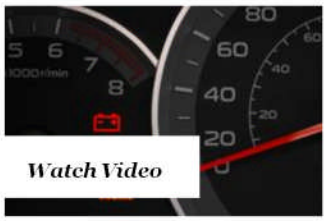

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